

**DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**  
**LEPC REPORT**  
**(Drafted 18 September 2006)**

**Madison County Disaster & Emergency Resource List:** I will have copies of the draft emergency resource list available at the meeting. It has two sections, as we previously discussed, but it still has a lot of work to be done before it is ready for LEPC approval. I would appreciate it if members would look over the draft list and provide comments or any other form of assistance to help this project along.

**Public Safety Communications:** Having Modified the Baldy Repeater so that it can be turned off and on from Dispatch, tests were run last Thursday to determine what problems, if any, there are with interference between Baldy, Ruby and Table repeaters. Further tests are scheduled for next week after the Under Sheriff's return. Meanwhile, the new Dispatch console and rcvr/xmtr for the VC hill should be shipped to us by the end of September. Installation will take place shortly thereafter. This will have considerable potential to help with some of our interference and paging problems. Exact status of the Lone Peak repeater is not clear, but it should be ready to install by early October.

Related to all this but separate from it is the statewide Interoperability Montana (IM) initiative, which is currently where all of Montana's homeland security grant money is currently being spent. A microwave loop that includes three sites in Madison County has been approved for construction next summer. The three sites are (1) Barter Ranch just north of the Beartrap; (2) Lone peak; and (3) Virginia City pass (at the site of the current FAA tower). While we don't currently have funds to allow us to take advantage of this system, its potential is huge and could greatly benefit county public safety efforts.

**Big Sky:** An agreement has been reached with Firescope Mid-America to carry out the Public Safety Planning Study of the Madison County portion of Big Sky. The study is to be completed by 10 December. The contractors will make their initial visit to Big Sky during the first week of October. They will meet with a host of individual agencies and persons in both Gallatin County and Madison County at that time in order to get a good grasp of what is involved with public safety in that area. They will also solicit public input at an open meeting tentatively scheduled for Tuesday afternoon or evening, 3 October at a location on the upper mountain which has yet to be determined..

**ICS/NIMS Training:** Steve DiGiovanna is scheduled to conduct tailored NIMS/ICS training for county employees on 21, 27 and 28 September in the Courthouse. This is a part of our continuing NIMS compliance effort and also serves to help the students be better able to carry out their assignments in case of a major catastrophe. Steve is a great asset for such training and is available for classes tailored to the needs of fire departments; SAR units or any of a wide variety of entities engaged in public emergency planning and response upon request.

**SubDivision Review:** The Board of Commissioners approved a revision of the subdivision review fees as requested by the Department and the LEPC. Joe Husar, county Risk Mitigation Coordinator has been doing these reviews, and will help provide a more appropriate level of compensation for his time and effort.

**Sappington Fire:** The after action review of the Sappington Fire held earlier this month proved both instructive and served to highlight the "big picture" of the handling of the fire. Participants praised the relationships between DNRC and other state and federal agencies; Harrison Fire and the County. It was particularly interesting to see the part ICS played in the day to day response effort.

**CERT:** A report of CERT training will be part of the agenda at this meeting. Suffice it to say that another excellent training session was held in the Harrison/Pony effort during the last two weeks and yet another is scheduled for Twin Bridges on 7, 14 and 15 October. Be sure to spread the word and encourage everyone you know to take part. We are approaching our initial goal of having close to 70 CERT graduates in all parts of the county. The next effort will be to increasingly integrate these valuable neighbors into our disaster response and planning at all levels, including the fire departments, SAR, law enforcement, County EOC and even in more routine emergency planning. CCC offers some great potential. We should work to take advantage of it.

**County Road Atlases:** The County Planning and GIS/IT Departments have completed producing a road atlas showing all known roads, structures, drainages, etc. A very useful tool for responders, all the first response agencies should have at least one copy by know. Others desiring to purchase a copy for private use (real estate agencies, other firms and private individuals may purchase one or more by calling Doris or one of her Planning associates.